

AGENDA

2008 FEDERAL INTERAGENCY TITLE IX SYMPOSIUM: *Gender Equity in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)*

**July 23, 2008
United States Department of Energy**

8:00 - 8:45

REGISTRATION & NETWORKING

8:45 - 10:20

INTRODUCTORY SESSION

Welcome

Theresa Alvillar-Speake
*Director
Office of Economic Impact and Diversity
United States Department of Energy*

Introductions

Loretta King
*Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division
United States Department of Justice*

Opening Remarks

Grace Chung Becker
*Acting Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division
United States Department of Justice*

James H. Lightbourne, III
*Acting Director
Office of Equal Opportunity Programs
National Science Foundation*

Brenda R. Manuel
*Assistant Administrator for Diversity and Equal Opportunity
National Aeronautics and Space Administration*

Keynote Address

Dr. Ellen Ochoa
*Deputy Director, Johnson Space Center
Astronaut STS-56, STS-66, STS-96, STS-110*

10:20 - 10:40

Morning Break & Refreshments

10:40 - 11:00

Title IX in Higher Education: Highlights from the Litigation Perspective
*Organized by the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division,
Educational Opportunities Section*

This session will provide background on Title IX higher education case law through examples of high impact litigation, including recent developments in the area of harassment.

Amy Berman
*Deputy Chief, Educational Opportunities Section
Civil Rights Division
United States Department of Justice*

11:00 - 12:40

Increasing Representation and Advancement of Women in Science and Engineering Careers: What We Have Learned from Research and Practice
Organized by the National Science Foundation

This panel discussion will feature instruments and strategies that have been effective in assessing academic institutional climate for promoting women in science and engineering. The panelists will also describe ongoing research that can identify institutional barriers and inform practices to promote gender equity in the science and engineering fields.

Diana Bilimoria, PhD
*Associate Professor
Case Western Reserve University*

Lisa Frehill, PhD
*Executive Director
Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology (CPST)*

Betty Shanahan
*Executive Director and CEO
Society of Women Engineers (SWE)*

12:40 - 1:40 - Department of Energy Cafeteria

LUNCH PROGRAM: Mock Title IX Compliance Review Exercise

Organized by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration

During the catered lunch, participants will gather in small groups to engage in a mock Title IX compliance review exercise. They will assess findings from a hypothetical review of a Department of Physics and a Department of Astronomy and Planetary Sciences.

1:40 - 2:30

Title IX: By...and Beyond...the Numbers

Organized by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) is a not-for-profit educational and service organization that empowers women to succeed and to advance their engineering career aspirations through a variety of training and development programs, scholarships, outreach, and advocacy activities. This session will review a number of SWE's strategies for increasing the participation of women in the STEM fields, with a focus on using Title IX as a high impact legal tool to achieve this goal.

Catherine Pieronek

*Chair, Governmental Relations and Public Policy Committee & Title IX Lead
Society of Women Engineers (SWE)*

2:30 - 3:15

Improving the Climate for Women in Physics: Identifying and Intervening to Solve Common Problems

Organized by the Department of Energy

The American Physical Society has had a long-standing interest in improving the climate for women in university physics departments. Toward that goal, the Committee on the Status of Women in Physics (CSWP) sponsors a site visit program for universities and national labs. In this talk, the CSWP will explain how it structures its site visits, discuss the common problems experienced by women in physics, as evidenced by its site visits, and make recommendations on how to improve the climate for women undergraduates, graduate students, postdocs, and faculty.

Sherry Yennello, PhD

*Regents Professor of Chemistry
Associate Dean of Diversity, College of Science
Texas A&M University*

3:15 - 3:25

Afternoon Break & Refreshments

3:25 - 4:05

Title IX Grievance Procedures: Strategies for Identifying Problems and Negotiating Improvements

***Organized by the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division,
Coordination and Review Section***

This panel discussion will review the procedural requirements of Title IX, including the critical elements of university Title IX grievance procedures. Experts in this area will address strategies for reviewing the adequacy of grievance procedures and negotiating improvements during the voluntary resolution process.

Jacqueline Michaels

*Supervisory Attorney
Office for Civil Rights
United States Department of Education*

Howard Kallem

*Chief Regional Attorney
D.C. Enforcement Office
Office for Civil Rights
United States Department of Education*

4:05 - 5:00

CLOSING SESSION

Battling Biases and Barriers: Necessary Steps our Academic Institutions Must Take to Assure a Strong Science and Engineering Workforce

Organized by the Department of Energy

The National Academy of Sciences formed a committee to study the underrepresentation of women in a number of important fields, a serious issue for the future of science in this country. This session will present the findings and recommendations published in the resulting report entitled “Beyond Bias and Barriers: Fulfilling the Potential of Women in Academic Science and Engineering.” This talk will use the findings and recommendations in the report as a framework for discussion of the issue of gender equity in science and engineering in this country.

Geraldine Richmond, PhD

*Founder and Chair of COACH
Richard M. and Patricia H. Noyes Professor of Chemistry, University of Oregon*

Concluding Remarks

Merrily Friedlander

*Chief, Coordination and Review Section
Civil Rights Division
United States Department of Justice*